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## Correspondent Tells Of Employe By Secretly Funded Agency News

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BY RUSSELL WARREN HOWE

In October 1967, a letter arrived at my summer cottage at Godstone, near London, from Georges Galipeau, a Canadian friend then running the journalism school at Dakar University in Senegal. I was about to relocate my family to Dakar, and base out of there for freelance forays around Africa and the Middle East. Several weeks before, Galipeau had asked me if I would be available to lecture to his students occasionally, and I had said I would.

"This is most embarrassing," Galipeau now wrote. A "key member" of the journalism school's board had forbidden him categorically to let me lecture, "because he says he knows you work for the CIA."

My first reflex was to laugh. The press in French-speaking Africa was far from free, and I could think of obvious reasons why some French and Senegalese officials wouldn't want the former *Washington Post* correspondent in Africa talking at Dakar University, a restless hotbed of opposition to the regime of Leopold Sedar Senghor.

My second reflex was to worry. Galipeau's letter, typed by his secretary, was presumably carbon-copied and in an open file. To how many people had the "key member" of the board spoken of his veto? A *Ramparts* article that summer on CIA penetration of the academic and publishing worlds had thrown a mantle of suspicion over Americans abroad, easily exploited by left-wing forces. What rumors about my alleged double role might be sown in my path, drying up sources cultivated in over a decade of third world reporting? There wasn't much time to lose: the Dakar academic year began in November.

I wrote to President Senghor, whom I had known as a *depute* in Paris and who had written the preface for the French translation of one of my books. I explained about Galipeau's letter.

"There's a new McCarthyism around," I wrote. "A few years ago, if we wrote critically of colonial rule, we were all communists. Now, if we write for the American press, we are all CIA agents."

Senghor's response came almost by return mail.

"You are right, a veritable McCarthyism is in the air where," he wrote. "The other day, someone said to me: 'The CIA station chief in Senegal is the director of Catholic Wel-

fare.' So, I said: 'How thoughtful of them to send me a fellow Catholic!' I am today instructing my Minister of National Education to invite you to be a Visiting Professor at the University."

In Dakar, I lost no time in finding out that the source of the CIA rumor was Philippe Gaillard, Senghor's press secretary and reputedly the head of French intelligence in Senegal. What I did not learn until several years later was that Gaillard was not just engaged in one of the anti-American capers for which French intelligence was notorious. Gaillard knew something which I didn't—and that Senghor presumably didn't believe—about Forum World Features, the syndicate headed by John Hay Whitney which was putting me into over 140 papers around the world.

### Signing On

An article in *The New York Times* in December 1977 by John Crewdson described Forum—as the service was always known to writers and subscribers—as "perhaps the most widely circulated of the CIA-owned news services." As the most prolific writer in Forum's stable, I was apparently what was known as an "unwitting asset."

My association with the organization went back to 1958. American press coverage of Africa was thin. AP and UP (not yet UPI) had bureaus in Cairo and Johannesburg. Some European editors of African papers included the American wire services among their strings. A former Hollywood reporter, the late Thomas Brady, covered the continent for the *Times*. I covered the continent for *The Washington Post*, at the time on a non-staff basis. AP, UP, Tom Brady, and myself were the entire U.S. press corps on the continent.

In April 1958, both Brady and I received letters from a body called the Congress for Cultural Freedom in Paris, inviting us to participate in a seminar on "Progress and Representative Government" at the University of Ibadan in Nigeria. The letters were signed by Melvin Lasky, the American co-editor of